Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 135

By: Johnson (Constance), Adelson, Aldridge, Anderson, Ballenger, Barrington, Bass, Bingman, Branan, Brogdon, Brown, Burrage, Coates, Coffee, Corn, Crain, Crutchfield, Easley, Eason McIntyre, Ellis, Ford, Garrison, Gumm, Halligan, Ivester, Johnson (Mike), Jolley, Justice, Lamb, Laster, Leftwich, Lerblance, Marlatt, Mazzei, Myers, Newberry, Nichols, Paddack, Reynolds, Rice, Russell, Schulz, Sparks, Stanislawski, Sweeden, Sykes, Wilson and Wyrick

A Resolution recognizing and applauding the resilience of the Haitian people; encouraging them to stand strong and united; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2010, at 4:53 p.m., a 7.0 magnitude earthquake practically leveled the Republic of Haiti. The most powerful quake to hit in 200 years, the epicenter of the earthquake was just ten miles from the nation's capital of Port-au-Prince where two million inhabitants reside. The earthquake also sent 33 aftershocks, ranging from 4.2 to 5.9 on the Richter scale, through the countryside. Over 100,000 people are believed to have died and more than three million and counting continue to be in need of emergency aid; and

WHEREAS, Haiti is a country that faced enormous challenges before the earthquake. The Caribbean island nation of Haiti had yet to recover from catastrophic storms in 2008 that left 1,000 dead and up to a million homeless. According to United Nations officials, about 20% of the capital city's structures collapsed and the 80% still standing suffered serious damage; and

WHEREAS, the people of Haiti have faced enormous challenges since its founding in 1804 when they defeated Napoleon Bonaparte of France and achieved history's only successful slave uprising against an oppressor. Haiti's heroic stand led to the Louisiana Purchase and the formation of the United States as it exists today; and

WHEREAS, despite serious political difficulties, as well as social and economic adversity, the people of Haiti continue to survive through their sense of hope for a better tomorrow and a determination to persevere in the face of overwhelming adversity and misfortune.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes and applauds the resiliency of the people of Haiti during a time of overwhelming destruction and devastation following the January 12, 2010, earthquake. The Oklahoma State Senate encourages the people of Haiti to stand strong and united in the face of such a tragic cataclysm as they rebuild their country with the help of citizens throughout the world.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Haitian Ambassador to the United States, Raymond Alcide Joseph.

Adopted by the Senate the 28th day of May, 2010.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Secretary of State this 28th **day of** May, 2010,

at 9:00 **o'clock** P **M.**

By: M. Susan Savage